

REMARKS

Claims 1, 3, 5, 7, 9, 11, 13, 15, and 17 are now pending in the application. Claims 2, 4, 6, 8, 10, 12, 14, 16, and 18 have been cancelled. The Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider and withdraw the rejections in view of the amendments and remarks contained herein.

REJECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 1, 3, 5, 7, 9, 11, 13, 15, and 17 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Reeder et al. (U.S. Pat. No. 6,539,007 hereafter “Reeder”). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Claims 1, 3, and 5 have been amended to call for transmitting a signal via a space-based transponder. Reeder does not anticipate such a system. More particularly, Reeder does not disclose a system wherein a base station communicates with a mobile unit via a space-based transponder. Further, there is no mention in Reeder of using a space-based transponder (such as a transponded satellite) for communication between a base station and a mobile unit. Additionally, claims 1, 3, and 5 have been amended to call for transmitting a signal repeatedly at a predetermined interval. Reeder does not disclose or suggest such a system wherein a signal is repeatedly sent at a set interval. As such, the claimed invention is not anticipated. The present provides the advantage of using the unique address, the return link assignment, or the combination of the two as the authorization signal for the mobile platform to transmit back to the base station. Furthermore, the repeated transmitting of the combined signal (the unique address, the return link assignment, or the combination of the two) functions as an on-going

authorization for the mobile platform to continue transmitting back to the base station. The authorization message is required by the mobile platform to continue transmission; any lapse in the repeated transmission of the authorization message results in the mobile platform terminating the transmission. This is fundamentally different from the system of Reeder, which appears to involve transmitting a TDMA data stream in several phases, and wherein a receiver is able to receive data in different phases at different times. With the system of the present invention, a single signal can be used to provide an authorization message along with the unique address, the return link assignment, or the combination of the two.

Claims 7, 9, 11, 13, 15, and 17 have been also amended to call for transmitting a signal repeatedly at a predetermined interval. Reeder does not anticipate such a method. Reeder merely discloses a method wherein "each data traffic communication and control channel comprises a specified frequency band that is, for example, 30 kilohertz wide, and a specified phase (or time slot) within the frequency band" (see col. 5, lines 31-34). This specified frequency band and time slot is different from the teaching of the present method which teaches a combined signal that is repeatedly sent at a predetermined interval. The specified frequency in Reeder refers to a bandwidth as opposed to the predetermined interval in the present matter. As such, the claimed invention is not anticipated.

CONCLUSION

It is believed that all of the stated grounds of rejection have been properly traversed, accommodated, or rendered moot. Applicant therefore respectfully requests

that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw all presently outstanding rejections. It is believed that a full and complete response has been made to the outstanding Office Action, and as such, the present application is in condition for allowance. Thus, prompt and favorable consideration of this amendment is respectfully requested. If the Examiner believes that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at (248) 641-1600.

Respectfully submitted,

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